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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 4 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for laser annealing a part comprising the steps of:

providing automated tooling;

providing a laser;

providing a an aluminum sheet panel having an upstanding flange with a radial bend therebetween to be annealed;

moving either one of the laser or aluminum sheet panel by the automated tooling relative to a stationary one of the other laser or aluminum sheet panel; and;

supplying power to the laser to heat a portion the radial bend of the aluminum sheet panel to a predetermined temperature to anneal the portion radial bend of the aluminum sheet panel as the laser and aluminum sheet panel move relative to each other.

2. (CANCELED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of providing the aluminum sheet panel comprises providing an aluminum sheet panel having a thickness of about one millimeter to about three millimeters.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of providing the aluminum sheet panel comprises providing an aluminum sheet panel having a radial bend of about five millimeters.

5. (CANCELED)

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6. (ORIGINAL) A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of providing the automated tooling comprises providing a robot with a movable arm.

7. (ORIGINAL) A method as set forth in claim 6 including the step of attaching the laser to the movable arm.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said step of moving comprises moving the movable arm and the laser relative to the stationary aluminum sheet panel.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 6 including the step of attaching the aluminum sheet panel to the movable arm.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said step of moving comprises moving the movable arm and the aluminum sheet panel relative to the stationary laser.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for laser annealing a part comprising the steps of:

providing a robot having a movable arm;

providing a laser;

providing an aluminum sheet panel having an upstanding flange with a radial bend to be annealed;

moving either one of the laser or aluminum sheet panel by the movable arm of the robot relative to a stationary one of the other laser or aluminum sheet panel; and;

supplying power to the laser to heat the radial bend of the aluminum sheet panel to a predetermined temperature to anneal the radial bend of the aluminum sheet panel as the laser and aluminum sheet panel move relative to each other.

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12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 11 wherein said step of providing the aluminum sheet panel comprises providing an aluminum sheet panel having a thickness of about one millimeter to about three millimeters.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 11 wherein said step of providing the aluminum sheet panel comprises providing an aluminum sheet panel having the upstanding flange of about 10.0 millimeters and the radial bend of about 5.0 millimeters.

14. (ORIGINAL) A method as set forth in claim 11 including the step of attaching the laser to the movable arm.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 14 wherein said step of moving comprises moving the movable arm and the laser relative to the stationary aluminum sheet panel.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 11 including the step of attaching the aluminum sheet panel to the movable arm.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as set forth in claim 16 wherein said step of moving comprises moving the movable arm and the aluminum sheet panel relative to the stationary laser.

18. (CANCELED)

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19. (ORIGINAL) A method for laser annealing a sheet panel comprising the steps of:
providing a robot having a movable arm;
providing a laser;
providing an aluminum sheet panel having an upstanding flange with a radial bend to be annealed;

attaching either one of the laser or aluminum sheet to the movable arm of the robot and moving the attached laser or aluminum sheet panel relative to a stationary one of the other laser or aluminum sheet panel; and

supplying power to the laser to heat the radial bend of the aluminum sheet panel to a predetermined temperature to anneal the radial bend of the aluminum sheet panel as the laser and aluminum sheet panel move relative to each other.